

"...human beings are robots, and machines.

I tend to think of human beings as huge rubbery test tubes, too  
with chemical reactions seething inside.

When I was a boy, I saw a lot of people with goiters....

All they had to do in order to have ordinary lives

It turned out,

Was to consume less than one-millionth of an ounce of iodine every day

When I get depressed,

I take a little pill

And I cheer up again.

And so on.

So it is a big temptation to me,

When I create a character for a novel

To say that he is what he is because of faulty wiring

Or because of microscopic amounts of chemicals

Which he ate or failed to eat

On that particular day."

Kurt Vonnegut Jr.